Video piracy in film industry

2556. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:
SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the measures Government have taken to save the film industry from video piracy; and

(b) the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Copyright Act, 1957, which falls under the purview of the Ministry of Human Resource Development provides the legal basis for the subsistence of copyright in cinematograph films and music. The responsibility for dealing with offences under the Copyright Act rests with the police authorities of the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Copyright Enforcement cells have been set up in most States/UT Administrations headed by a senior police officer to deal with such offences.

The Copyright Act is amended from time to time to keep it in consonance with International Copyright Law.

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has taken several initiatives to mitigate piracy of films as follows:

(i) On the basis of a recommendation made by the Committee for Development of the Entertainment Sector, the Indian Institute of Mass Communication has been asked to formulate appropriate training modules for police officers to train them for anti-piracy work;

(ii) To create an anti-piracy mind-set and to promote cooperation among stakeholders, this Ministry had brought film producers, multi-service operators and cable operators together, and they had jointly resolved not to exhibit films without valid permission from the copyright holders.

(iii) In an effort to check cable piracy, the Cable Television Networks Regulation Act has been amended in 2000, enabling the Government to prohibit a Cable operator from transmitting or re-transmitting any programme or channel for which he has not been granted a license by the Copyright holder.

(iv) A recommendation made by the Committee for Development of the Entertainment Sector, that a realistic ceiling level for entertainment tax to be imposed by the State Governments could be 60%, since high rate of entertainment tax facilitates piracy, has been communicated to all State Governments.

Vulgar TV advertisements

2557. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to act seriously against Vulgar television advertisements;

(b) if so, whether Government have received number of complaints from MPs, housewives and others regarding obscene advertisements on television;

(c) whether Government have already held talks with the Indian Broadcasting Federation about the advertising standards;

(d) if so, whether in the films also, some scenes are being shown which is uncalled for; and

(e) if so, the steps Government propose to take to crack down on vulgar television advertisements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (e) The programmes of all Satellite Channels, when transmitted through cable television networks in the country are required to adhere to the Advertising Code prescribed under the Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed therunder. The Advertising Code *inter alia* prohibits carriage of such